



Elisa Weinman-Pogue

# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Elisa Weinman-Pogue

SCHOOL: Head Start/ECEAP

GRADE LEVEL: Preschool (Ages 3 to 5 -- located at Blue Ridge Elementary)

Q. How do you use the seasons to help reinforce lessons?

A. Right now we are focusing on cold weather and winter time activities. We read stories that have something to do with snow and winter. We talk about animals that are active in the winter time. We also discuss how to dress appropriately for winter and cold and flu prevention, as these are part of our health and safety focus subjects for this month.

Q. Are your students reading at this age level?

A. Most of them are not reading yet, but they are recognizing their names and letters in the alphabet. They have an understanding of rhymes, so we find stories that have a lot of rhyming in them. The children are making predictions as to what is going to happen in the story based on pictures and the text. We also do a lot of recall after story time by asking questions about what happened in the story.

Q. How does your classroom library check out system work?

A. We have a program called the "Lending Library." Each student has a reading record to chart the books they read. The first thing they do when they arrive at school is check out a new book. The program is designed to have parents read a new book to their child every night. Once they read the book, parents record it on the reading record. It's a great opportunity for families to read a new book every night.

## COMMENTS FROM HEAD START/ECEAP DIRECTOR DONNA PAINTER:

"Elisa is a model of a caring adult. She is consistently responsive to students, meeting them where they are, in order to support their needs and abilities. Her classroom is a warm, nurturing, welcoming environment that fosters the development of trusting relationships."

Over



**MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM  
ELISA WEINMAN-POGUE'S CLASS:**



**COMMENTS FROM ELISA...**

We strongly promote literacy at home. We stress to our families that reading promotes academic growth and development. It also helps the child with oral language development. There are so many concepts that can be taught through reading.

We have noticed more of our parents are working or attending school, so we don't have as many in the classrooms as in years' past. We help connect parents to community services to help them better support their families.



I enjoy using art to support my teaching. It promotes fine motor development and it allows students to take the ideas they have in their minds and put them down on paper. This demonstrates cognitive growth. And, it's just a lot of fun!